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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/714,624

11/18/2003

David Stinson

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EXAMINER

PRICE, CRAIG JAMES

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3753

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

07/06/2009

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/714,624	Applicant(s) STINSON, DAVID	
	Examiner Craig Price	Art Unit 3753	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 June 2009.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-9,18-20 and 28-34 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-9,18-20 and 28-34 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

The previous final action is withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

Applicant's amendment overcomes the rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1, 3, 4 and 28-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by DeZorzi (6,518,875).

Regarding claims 1 and 28, DeZorzi discloses a digital pressure display (68) comprising, (74) sensor means for intermittently sensing the pressure,

(72) microprocessor means to intermittently enable the operation of the sensor means to sense the pressure at predetermined sampling intervals and generate a signal, and

(70) power means to power the sensor means and the microprocessor means for generating a digital pressure reading, wherein the sensor means sensing the pressure at predetermined sampling intervals reduce power requirements (Col. 6, Lns. 25-27).

Regarding claims 3 and 30, DeZorzi discloses that the power means comprises a battery (Col. 3, Lns. 43-45).

Regarding claims 4 and 31, DeZorzi discloses that the battery is rechargeable (Col.3, Lns. 43-45), since the battery is a “vehicle” battery it is capable of being recharged.

Regarding claim 1/29 and 28/29, DeZorzi discloses that the controller is operable to increase the sampling rate of sampling intervals (Col. 6, Lns. 8-35, “the controller controls the switch for periodic activation of the sensors”).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 5,6,32 and 33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over DeZorzi '875 in view Salmond (5,032,287).

DeZorzi has disclosed all of the features of the claimed invention except that the digital pressure display further includes a light sensor for sensing a dark condition so as to terminate the generation of the digital pressure reading during the dark condition.

Salmond discloses a fluid system, which utilizes an ambient sensor, which further includes a light sensor for sensing a dark condition (Col. 3, Lns. 28-34) so as to

terminate the generation of the digital pressure reading during the dark condition (the term “so as to”, is considered as an intended state of use).

In view of the Salmond patent, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to utilize a light sensor as taught by Salmond into the device of DeZorzi to have a light sensor for sensing a dark condition in order to optimize power consumption.

Claims 7 and 34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over DeZorzi '875 in view Salmond (5,032,287) and further in view of Rabizadeh (5,606,123).

DeZorzi has disclosed all of the features of the claimed invention except that the circuitry has a solar power cell to recharge the battery.

Rabizadeh discloses a pressure monitoring device which teaches that the circuitry has a solar power cell to recharge the battery (Col.6, Lns. 2-3).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to employ a solar power cell as taught by Rabizadeh in order to utilize reusable resources as a power supply.

Claims 8, 9 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Saito et al. (6,171,104) in view of DeZorzi '875.

Firstly, Saito et al. discloses a manual valve 36 and pressure sensor 35, but is silent to having a microprocessor means to intermittently enable the operation of the sensor means to sense the pressure at predetermined sampling intervals.

DeZorzi discloses a pressure monitoring system for a fluid handling device which teaches the use of a microprocessor (72) means to intermittently enable the operation of the sensor means to sense the pressure at predetermined sampling intervals (Col. 6, Lns. 8-35).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to substitute the microprocessor as taught by Zorzi with the microprocessor of Saito et al. in order to reduce the overlap and interference of data messages from other sensor modules (Col. 6, Lns. 33-35).

Secondly, Saito et al. is silent in providing a visible digital pressure display.

DeZorzi discloses a pressure monitoring device which teaches the use of a visual digital display 68.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to employ a digital display as taught by DeZorzi into the system of Saito et al. in order to manually indicate to an operator the pressure of the system.

Thirdly, Saito is silent in that the digital display is replaceable with a needle dial display.

Official Notice is hereby taken that it is widely known and notoriously old in the pressure measuring art to use a needle dial display in situations where digital displays are not required, to reduce the use of power.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to utilize a needle dial in place of a digital dial display in order to not require the use of alternative or additional powering means.

Claims 19 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Saito et al. (6,171,104) in view of DeZorzi '875 and further in view of Gauthier (6,007,330).

Saito et al. and DeZorzi are silent to providing the alarm in the event of a no-pressure vacuum level.

Gauthier discloses a fluid control system for a semiconductor manufacturing process which teaches the use of vacuum pressure alarm (Col.6, Lns. 21 – 34).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to employ an alarm as taught by Gauthier into the system of Saito et al. in order to instruct the operator of a vacuum level which has varied from the setpoint or predetermined level (Col.6, Lns. 28 – 32) to perform a certain function.

Double Patenting

Applicant's cancelling of claim 35 overcomes the objection.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1,3-9,18-20 and 28-34 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Craig Price whose telephone number is (571) 272-2712. The examiner can normally be reached on 7AM - 5:30PM Mon-Thurs, Increased flex time.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robin Evans can be reached on (571) 272-4777. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/C. P./
Examiner, Art Unit 3753

22 June 2009

/Gregory L. Huson/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art
Unit 3751